Please amend the Claims as follows:

1   1.   **(Currently Amended)** A method of using a data processing system for

2   processing travelers crossing international borders, comprising:

3   a[.]) prior to the time of travel, employing the data processing system to enroll

4   enrolling a traveler to utilize an automated check-in process; and

5   b[.]) at the time of travel, utilizing an the automated check-in process to

6   complete activities necessary to enable an international border crossing.

1   2.   **(Currently Amended)** The method of Claim 1, wherein step a[.]) includes:

2   obtaining an image of a travel document; and

3   comparing the image to an image on file with an enrollment official.

1   3.   **(Currently Amended)** The method of Claim 2, wherein

2   the obtaining step of obtaining the image includes scanning the travel document

3   to obtain a digital image; and

4   the comparing step of comparing the image includes comparing the digital image

5   to a digital image on file with the enrollment official.

1   4.   **(Original)** The method of Claim 3, wherein the travel document is selected from

2   the group consisting of passports and Official Travel Documents (OTDs).

1   5.   **(Currently Amended)** The method of Claim 2, wherein step a[.]) includes

2   collecting unique identification indicia from the traveler for use in performing

3   identification verification on ~~the~~ a day of travel.

1   6.   **(Original)** The method of Claim 5, wherein the identification indicia includes

2   biometric data.

1   7.   **(Original)** The method of Claim 6, wherein the biometric data is selected from a

2   group consisting of handwriting samples, iris scans, hand or finger geometry, facial

3   scans, facial geometry measurements, hand scans, fingerprint samples, physical

4   measurements, and voice samples.

1   8.   **(Original)** The method of Claim 5, wherein the biometric data includes at least

2   two different types of biometric samples.

1   9.   **(Original)** The method of Claim 5, and further including storing the identification

2   indicia for use during the automated check-in process.

1   10.   **(Currently Amended)** The method of Claim 9, wherein step b[.]) includes

2   retrieving the ~~record~~ the stored identification indicia;

3   collecting unique identification indicia from the traveler; and

4   automatically comparing the ~~collected~~ unique identification indicia to the stored

5   identification indicia to verify identity of the traveler.

1 11.   (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 10, wherein the retrieving ~~step~~ of the

2 stored identification indicia includes:

3   scanning a travel document; and

4   using information on the travel document to retrieve the stored identification

5 indicia.

1 12.   (Original) The method of Claim 10, and further including automatically verifying

2 that the traveler's itinerary qualifies the user to use the automated check-in process.

1 13.   (Original) The method of Claim 10, and further including automatically prompting

2 the traveler to electronically complete at least one questionnaire required for the

3 international border crossing.

1 14.   (Original) The method of Claim 13, and further including checking the at least

2 one completed questionnaire to determine whether the traveler is eligible to utilize an

3 automated clearance process after the international border has been crossed.

1 15.   (Original) The method of Claim 10, and further including automatically printing

2 documents to allow the traveler to embark on the international border crossing.

1 16.   (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the automated check-in process is

2 performed on a self-service kiosk.

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1 17.   **(Currently amended)** The method of Claim 1, and including performing one or

2 more automated checks to determine whether the traveler poses any risk to ~~the~~ a

3 country of destination.

1 18.   **(Original)** The method of Claim 17, wherein the checks are selected from the

2 group consisting of a criminal check, a terrorist check, an agricultural check, and an

3 immigration check.

1 19.   **(Currently Amended)** The method of Claim 17, and further including, ~~after the~~

2 ~~international border crossing has been completed~~, at the country of destination, utilizing

3 an automated clearance process to allow the traveler to enter ~~a~~ the country.

1 20.   **(Currently Amended)** The method of Claim 19, wherein the automated

2   clearance process includes:

3   verifying the identity of the traveler;

4   obtaining results of the one or more automated checks;

5   if any of the one or more automated checks failed, requiring the traveler to

6 undergo a manual clearance process; and

7   if all of the automated checks passed, allowing the user to enter the country of

8 destination without undergoing the manual clearance process.

1 21.   **(Original)** The method of Claim 20, and further including enabling an automated

2   exit gate to allow a user to enter the country of destination.

1   22.   **(Currently Amended)** The method of Claim 10, wherein the ~~storing~~ step <u>of</u>

2   <u>storing the identification indicia</u> includes creating a secure token storing the

3   identification indicia.

1   23.   **(Currently Amended)** A system for performing automated processing of a

2   traveler crossing an international border, comprising:

3   a data processing system to enroll a traveler to use an automated check-in

4   procedure; and

5   a first user interaction system coupled to the data processing <u>system</u> to provide

6   the automated check-in procedure that automatically initiates activities necessary to

7   allow the traveler to cross the international border.

1   24.   **(Original)** The system of Claim 23, and further including a second user

2   interaction system coupled to the data processing system to provide an automated

3   clearance procedure that automatically initiates activities necessary to allow the traveler

4   to enter a country of destination after the international border has been crossed.

1   25.   **(Original)** The system of Claim 24, wherein at least one of the first and the

2   second user interaction systems are self-service kiosks.

1   26.   **(Original)** The system of Claim 24, wherein at least one of the first and the

2   second user interaction systems includes at least one biometric reader to read biometric

3   samples from the traveler.

1   27.   **(Original)** The system of Claim 24, wherein at least one of the first and the

2   second user interaction systems includes a scanner to scan travel documents.

1   28.   **(Original)** The system of Claim 24, wherein the first user interaction system

2   obtains data from the traveler that is required to allow entry into the country of

3   destination.

1   29.   **(Original)** The system of Claim 28, wherein at least one of the data processing

2   system and the first user interaction system includes means for checking the data to

3   determine whether the traveler is allowed to utilize the second user interaction system

4   to complete the automated clearance procedure.

1   30.   **(Original)** The system of Claim 29, wherein at least one of the data processing

2   system and the first and second user interaction systems includes means to initiate

3   automated checks to determine whether the traveler poses any threat to the country of

4   destination.

1   31.   **(Original)** A system for managing the crossing of an international border by a

2   traveler, comprising:

3   enrollment means for enrolling the traveler in an automated travel process; and

4   automated user interface means for allowing the user to participate in the

5   automated travel process that completes all activities required for entry into a country

6   without the need for human intervention.

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2   32.   **(Original)** The system of Claim 31, wherein the automated user interface

3   means includes:

4   first means for automatically performing check-in activities before crossing

5   the border; and

6   second means for automatically performing clearance activities after

7   crossing the border.